

## Notes and News

### Qin Bamboo Manuscripts in the Possession of the Yuelu Academy

In December 2007, Yuelu Academy of Hunan University in Changsha invested considerable funds for a rescue acquisition of Qin bamboo manuscripts from the Hong Kong antique market. When conservation specialists had preserved and processed the bamboo strips, there were 2,098 numbered items of which more than 800 strips are quite complete. Since these strips have passed through many hands, their original sequence at the time of excavation is not known. According to a first survey, they mainly belong to the following categories: calendars (*lipu* 歷譜), diary entries (*rizhi* 日志), mathematics (*suanshu shu* 算數書), dream divination (*mengshu* 夢書), admonitions to officials (*guanzen* 官箴), excerpts from statutes and ordinances (*luling zachao* 律令雜抄), and revision cases (*zouyan shu* 奏讞書).

There are two calendars, one from year 34 and one from year 35 of the reign of King Zheng of Qin (223 resp. 222 BC); the diary entries are mainly from his year 27 (230 BC).

The mathematical texts are the oldest excavated known so far, they are some dozen years earlier than those of tomb 247 of Zhangjiashan 張家山 in Hubei. The same holds true for the dream manual, the content of which is different from

the divinations of dreams found in the ‘*rishu*’ from Shuihudi 睡虎地 in Hubei. It is a collection of divinations not related to a certain date.

The admonition to officials is similar to the ‘Way of the Official’ (*Wei li zhi dao* 為吏之道) found at Shuihudi, but its content is different, so that both may be considered complementary.

The excerpts from statutes and ordinances and the revision cases make up most of the bamboo strips. Many paragraphs supplement the legal texts from Shuihudi, especially the ordinances, such as 內史倉曹令, 內史戶曹令, 內史官共令, 四司空共令, 四謁者令, 縣官田令, 食官共令, 郡卒令, 遷史令, 捕盜賊令, 贖令. Since none of these were known from the Shuihudi materials, they are of great significance for the study of the Qin legal system as well as of the history of law under the Qin. Furthermore, in these legal texts some names of commanderies and districts occur, such as 清河郡, 江湖郡, 恆山郡, 衡山郡, supplying the study of the historical geography of the Qin period with brand-new materials of great value.

Chen Songchang 陳松長 | Changsha  
Translated by Michael Friedrich | Hamburg

## Notes and News

### Warring States Manuscripts in the Possession of Tsinghua University

In a press release from October 23rd, 2008, Tsinghua University announced the acquisition of more than 2,000 inscribed bamboo and wooden slips from the Warring States period. According to a first survey, among the texts are, besides transmitted parts, previously unknown chapters of the Book of Documents (*Shang-shu* 尚書) such as The Mandate of Fu Yue (*Fu Yue zhi ming* 傅說之命); annals covering the

period from the beginning of Western Zhou until early Warring States; furthermore, materials related to The Book of Changes (*Zhou yi* 周易). Further information at:

<http://news.tsinghua.edu.cn/new/news.php?id=19180>

<http://news.tsinghua.edu.cn/new/news.php?id=19307>

<http://news.tsinghua.edu.cn/new/news.php?id=19522>

Michael Friedrich | Hamburg